

Patent

Docket No. 9222.16399-D DIV

**GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE FOR ASSOCIATION WITH AN
ELECTRODE STRUCTURE DEPLOYED IN CONTACT WITH A TISSUE
REGION**

RELATED APPLICATION

5 This application is a division of co-pending
United States Patent application Serial No. 09/305,123
filed May 4, 1999, ^{now US Patent No. 6,358,245} which is a continuation-in-part of co-
pending United States Patent Application Serial Number
09/026,296, filed February 19, 1998, ^{now US Pat No. 6,009,877} and entitled "Method
10 for Treating Sphincter."

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

15 In a general sense, the invention is directed
to systems and methods for treating interior tissue
regions of the body. More specifically, the invention is
directed to systems and methods for treating dysfunction
in body sphincters and adjoining tissue, e.g., in and
around the lower esophageal sphincter and cardia of the
stomach.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

20 The gastrointestinal tract, also called the
alimentary canal, is a long tube through which food is
taken into the body and digested. The alimentary canal
begins at the mouth, and includes the pharynx, esophagus,
stomach, small and large intestines, and rectum. In human
25 beings, this passage is about 30 feet (9 meters) long.

Small, ring-like muscles, called sphincters,
surround portions of the alimentary canal. In a healthy